

Just published,

N U M B E R V.

In Two Parts. Part I.

A R E J O I N D E R

To Sundry LETTERS,



Obtained by Capt. B--n and G. W--r,

And read at the Great Meeting, Chatham,

JANUARY 20, 1792.

By JAMES POULSON.

**Sold by the Author at his Academy, Strood; where
Youth are taught the English Grammar, Writing,
and Arithmetic.**

Price One Penny.

IN my former Numbers I have distributed abroad the shameful conduct of the Chief Managers of *Strood Meeting*, who have taken a secret malicious pleasure in fixing their *false* accusations on me; and not one of them can say with a clear conscience, *I am innocent*. What I have written is the *truth*, and I will prove it; and the very name of truth is honorable and as extensive as the whole creation, and includes in it all the blessings of the *head* and *heart*; and when mens *actions* and words do not correspond with *truth*, and are not governed by it, such persons, let their profession be what it will, are *false*, *faithless*, and *fickle*, and unworthy the name of a Christian, which has been the deliberate conduct of my Accusers; they have shewn a disposition for Slander and Defamation; they have ventured as near as possible on the borders of what I think an *unlawful* and a very sinful practice; they have given an unguarded loose to their tongue; and Mr. R. W—t, of Strood, was lately heard to say, “they had agreed to take me by *force* out of my house;” but they were *afraid* of the consequences; they have used their utmost influence to prevent the sale of my Numbers, by threats, &c.; they have threatened me with a prosecution, but let them try their *skill*; they have falsely accused me, and I step forward before the public in my own Defence, as every injured person is permitted by Law to do; and I think they will shortly flee before me, and *fall* like *lightning* to the ground. They have dispatched letters upon letters to different parts, of an *inflamatory* nature, in order to obtain *Accusations* against me, as I shall hereafter prove: and there is a *worthless* being associates with them,

them, who is like the *gadding Drone*, called B——d, wandering abroad from house to house, and as mischievous as *Samson's foxes* were; he justly deserves the name of a *Whisperer*, a *Back-biter*, a *Tale-bearer*, and a *Busy-body*, going from house to house, speaking things which he ought not.

I confess I am at a loss to shorten what I have to say on the subject in view; and the only fault I wish to shun is prolixity. I could wish for the abilities of an able writer to render this part of my subject copious and inventive, and yet concise and fertile. I know there are many compositions through a *luxuriant growth*, that rather tire and cloy the reader, than improve and delight the imagination; I chuse therefore to divide my Rejoinder into two Parts, in order to do justice to myself, to the reader, and to my accusers, which I hope will not be disagreeable to any.

I am not insensible that my Accusers will object to my Appeal to the public, whom they *censure* as improper judges of real merit; they represent the public as *brutal*, *carnal*, and *degenerate*; but the public give instances and proof of their *Mercy* and *Charity* to their fellow-creature; they don't torture each other in the manner I have been tortured by Capt. B. and Greg. War--r and their Abettors, on which account I chose to appeal to the Public; and when they have perused the contents of the within testimonials, attested by the ablest *Divines* in the *North of Ireland*, and other persons of equal probity in *England* and *Wales*, compared with the *Author's* manner of life during his residence here, the discerning public will be able to form a proper judgement of the *real* character of the *Writer*, who has been so *slanderosly* reported by Capt. B. and Greg. Warn-r. What a shame and a scandal it is for professors of religion to be *false Accusers*! It was a good remark
of

of *Kempe's*, a devout papist in former days, it would be well if Capt. B. would copy after his advice: "Bridle the *appetite* of your *palates*; get the *sovereignty* over them, and learn to *master* every *vice*;" and an heathen Poet and an inspired Apostle both agree on this subject. I wish I could prevail on Capt. B. to yield to Conviction when he reads the following letters:

L E T T E R I.

"THE bearer, the Rev^d. James Poulson, has these nine years and upwards *preached* the Gospel in most of our *Congregations* in *Ireland*, to the entire satisfaction and acceptance of our people; and, during his abode among us, the whole of his deportment and behaviour has been in every respect as becometh a Minister of the Gospel; and as he is about to depart from this place for some time, and probably to visit *North Britain*, at his request we hereby recommend him to the great *Bishop* and *Shepherd* of Souls, and to the notice of our Brethren; hoping his labours in the Ministry may be as useful in other parts of Christ's vineyard, where Divine Providence may direct his lot. Testified by us

Rev. Hugh Dunlap, A. M.

Rev. John Marshal, A. M.

Rev. James Hughey, A. M.

Rev. James Armstrong, A. M.

Rev. James Gordon, A. M.

Rev. James Nesbet, A. M.

Rev. Stephen Briyell, B. D.

Omah, November 12, 1779."

From the above testimonials, and attested by so many able Divines, the impartial reader may judge how the author behaved himself among the people in *Ireland*, and how he employed his time and his talents there; for, exclusive of my public services on the Sabbath-day, I published the following compositions:

sitions: In the year 1773, I published an answer to Dr. *Blair's* book entituled, "Thoughts on Nature and Religion." "Divine Emblems on the Rock at Flamborough-head, Yorkshire; dedicated by permission to Dr. Isaac Mann, late Lord Bishop of Cork and Ross." 1774 I published two Discourses in the city of *Limerde*; and a Morning Piece, written on a Flower Garden at *Curry Glasf.* 1775, sundry Sermons. 1777, I published at *Belfast*, "Theological Observations, dedicated by permission to the Right Honorable John De Courcy, Lord Baron of Kingsale," with more than two thousand subscribers names prefixed to the work, price 2s. 2d. 1778, I published at *London Derry*, two Discourses, delivered at Colerain. 1779, I published my "Lyric Poems," in the city of *Glasgow*. Thus my readers may see that it was my divine employ to exercise myself in the statutes of the Lord; which, in times of *distress*, have been the subject matter of my *Songs* in the course of my pilgrimage.

At the beginning of the year 1780, I returned to England, and married the daughter of the late Capt. Holbrook, in the city of *Bristol*; but the rugged scenes I met there occasioned my removal to *Haverfordwest*, South Wales, with the under-written testimonials, attested by Mrs. *Holbrook's Brothers*:

L E T T E R II.

"THE bearer, Mr. James Poulson, has taught a school in this city some years, with great *Reputation* and *Success*; but by his marrying a person of bad conduct, he is obliged to disappear for a time. If you can assist him in his profession in the circle of your acquaintance, we shall esteem it as done to ourselves, and the favor shall be acknowledged by us, who remain your humble servants

Richard Morris,

William Morris.

Bristol,

August 4, 1783."

I need not inform the *feeling reader* what a pain it is to my mind, that I am put under the disagreeable necessity of publishing my *domestic* affairs, through Capt. Bu-n and Greg. W——r; I appeal to the public if this is fair, if it is just, and doing as they would be done unto. What, if all the *defects* of Capt. B. were to be sought after, and ravaged over for *twenty-one years back*, there would be many a *blot* in his *scarlet coat*!

On my arrival at *Haverfordwest*, I met a cordial reception from Capt. P—r, in consequence of the within letter, which was continued near two years; he honored me with *double honor*; but, through some unknown cause to me, a sudden change took place in his mind, and he became my greatest *enemy*, and made a *treble* demand on me for all his former favors, which he *voluntarily* gave me, and I paid him. He is a generous *friend*, but an *unmerciful enemy*; he is very *imperious*, and soon takes *offence*, but he never *forgives* any who offend him; he is just to pay his debts, but a bitter *tyrant*, and the infamous *vice* of *Cock-fighting* has been his favourite exercise from his youth, as he himself informed me. This is the *genuine* and well-known character of the man, from whom Capt. Bu-n has received his packets of *Accusations* against me. A second packet he has received from Mr. Benjamin Jon-s, of *Haverfordwest*, who is a near relation to Capt. P—r. This man informs Capt. B. that I left *Haverfordwest* in his *debt*; he also accuses me with *indecenties* with the *female sex*; and that I left *Haverfordwest* without *one* friend; but he was either afraid or ashamed to prefix his name to his very *iniquitous* accusations. Any person of reputation is welcome to see his account at my house, settled with his own hand-writing, and the difference, if any, is in my favor; and as to my leaving *Haverfordwest* without *one* friend, the discerning public will

will perceive the *injustice* of his malicious accusation, when they see so many of my respectable *friends*, of the *first eminence*, in the town and county of Haverfordwest, who voluntarily and cheerfully subscribed their names to the under-written testimonials, but a day or two before I left the town; and some of them have, without the least hesitation, cheerfully signed a *subsequent* letter, which I shall print in my next Number, to prove the horrid and false accusations of J——s S———n, at Hoxt— academy, London; which letters may be seen at my house by any person. Before I leave this subject I shall inform the public of the cause of Mr. Benjamin Jon—'s resentment to me.——A few years ago, Mr. Richard Maddox, of *Praudergest* near Haverfordwest, who was in adverse circumstances, applied to me to assist him to recover *twelve guineas*, due to him from a person now at *Richmond*; which money Mr. M. told me had been *deposited* in the hands of Mr. Benj. Jon-s, for upwards of *eight years*, to discharge his *debt*; he told me, he had applied to Mr. Jon-s, year after year, for his money, but was still refused payment, and passed off with haughty scorn. The poor man and his wife related the above case with *tears* in their eyes; I could not be easily prevailed upon to believe such a report of Mr. Jon-s, I hoped better things of him; but, for my own satisfaction, and at Mr. Maddox's request, I addressed a letter to the gentleman, then living at *Richmond* near London; his name at present I cannot recollect; and, to my great surprize, the gentleman wrote me a letter and confirmed the truth of Mr. M's story to me, and inclosed an order upon Mr. Benj. Jon-s for twelve pounds twelve shillings, to be paid to Mr. Richard Maddox or order, on demand. For the truth of which I refer the reader to Mrs. Maddox, relict of the late Mr. R. M. at *Praudergest* near Haverfordwest.

I appeal to my readers, if this man's conduct is

not a fair *portrait* of Greg. Warn-r's late conduct to me; he also covets the *pre-eminence* in the tabernacle at Haverfordwest; he keeps a *good table* for R. Hall and Capt. J. and they extol him very high as a very *pious* man; yet, with all his *unfancified*, affected piety and guile, he is but a fool to Greg. Warn-r for subtilty, cunning and craftiness; for Gregory has the very *depth* of *Satan* in him, and I verily believe, unless it be the *Devil himself*, he cannot find his *Match* on this side the gates of death. He is too deep for Capt. B. he has drawn the Captain into his *snare*, from which he will never honorably extricate himself: But it is time for me to retire from this disagreeable subject, and proceed to my third letter.

L E T T E R III.

"WE whose names are under-written, do certify, that the bearer Mr. James Poulson, schoolmaster, has instructed youth in this town upwards of *seven* years with *Sobriety* and *Vigilence*; and his just and upright behaviour among us, has entitled him to our *friendship* and recommendation to families of eminence where Providence may cast his lot. Given under our hands at *Haverfordwest* in the county of Pembroke, November 22, 1790.

Joseph Fortune, Esq.

Richard Parry, Esq.

John Thomas,

John Green,

William Davies,

William Whitchurch,

Solom. Mary Church,

Thomas Scowcroft."

From the concurring testimonials by so many persons of known Veracity, the discerning reader will form a judgement of the *false*, *disgusting* and *malicious* accusations of Capt. P—r and Benj. J—s; and, instead of my not having *one* friend when I left Haverfordwest, as Mr. B. J. asserted, the reader will see *Eight*, who tell the world, that I am entitled to their *friendship*, &c. 23 JU 62

My next Number will open the iniquitous scene of Capt. B. and Greg. W's letters to Haverfordwest, with their contents, which was the cause of their accusations, &c. which intelligence I have since received in a letter from Mr. John Thomas.